



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 468

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 6087

House of Representatives, April 22, 2003

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. O'ROURKE of the 32nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF A "MINOR PARTY".

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (6) of section 9-372 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (6) "Minor party" means (A) a political party or organization which
5 is not a major party and whose candidate for the office in question
6 received at the last-preceding regular election for such office, under the
7 designation of that political party or organization, at least one per cent
8 of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for such office at
9 such election, (B) a political party or organization whose candidate for
10 Governor at the last-preceding election for Governor received, under
11 the designation of that political party or organization, at least two per
12 cent, but less than twenty per cent, of the whole number of votes cast
13 for all candidates for Governor at such election, or (C) a political party

14 having, at the last-preceding election for Governor, a number of
15 enrolled members on the active and inactive registry lists equal to at
16 least one per cent, but less than twenty per cent, of the total number of
17 enrolled members of all political parties on the active registry list in the
18 state.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2003

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill, which expands the definition of a “minor party”, has no fiscal impact on the state.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6087

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF A "MINOR PARTY"**SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the definition of "minor party" to include a party whose:

1. candidate for governor in the last gubernatorial election received between 2% and 20% of all the votes cast for that office or
2. membership on the active and inactive registry lists at the time of the preceding gubernatorial election was between 1% and 20% of the total number of all people enrolled in a party on the active registry list statewide.

Under current law, candidates for a party other than a major party can qualify for ballot access for only a particular office if they received at least 1% of the total vote for all candidates for that office at the last election. The bill retains this option. A candidate whose party does not have major or minor party status must petition onto the ballot.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

BACKGROUND***Major Parties***

A political party qualifies as a "major party" if:

1. its candidate for governor received at least 20% of the vote at the last gubernatorial election or
2. it had at least 20% of the total number of enrolled members of all parties on the active registry list in the state at the time of the preceding gubernatorial election.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0